



**HEALTH OF THE PROFESSIONAL WHO WORKS IN HEALTH AREA AND
SCIENTIFIC PRODUCTION IN SCIELO: INTEGRATIVE REVIEW**
**SAÚDE DO PROFISSIONAL DA ÁREA DA SAÚDE E PRODUÇÃO CIENTÍFICA NA SCIELO:
REVISÃO INTEGRATIVA**
**SALUD DEL PROFESIONAL DE LA AREA DE SALUD Y LA PRODUCCIÓN CIENTÍFICA EN SCIELO:
REVISIÓN INTEGRADORA**

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ABSTRACT

Objective: to investigate the scientific literature on the health of workers in the health field, from data cataloged in a digital database. **Methodology:** an integrative review conducted in six steps. The search was conducted by the collection SCIELO in the period 1972-2011, the titles and abstracts of articles that covered the issue of health of health professionals, the descriptors "Occupational Health" and "Occupational Health". After thematic analysis of the selected articles, a systematization was used as indicators: searched professional category, number of articles, journal and year of publication. **Results:** we identified a total of 579 articles, of which 164 addressed the topic at hand. **Conclusion:** It was found an annual growth of publications on this topic in SCIELO, whichever the related field of Occupational Health, compared to the Occupational Health, suggesting a paradigm shift in the approach to this subject matter. **Descriptors:** Personal Health; Occupational Health; Human Development.

RESUMO

Objetivo: investigar a produção científica sobre a saúde dos trabalhadores da área de saúde, a partir dos dados catalogados em uma base digital. **Metodologia:** revisão integrativa realizada em seis etapas. A busca foi feita junto à coleção SCIELO, no período de 1972 a 2011, de títulos e resumos de artigos que abrangessem a questão da saúde dos profissionais de saúde, a partir dos descritores "Saúde do Trabalhador" e "Saúde Ocupacional". Após análise temática dos artigos selecionados, a sistematização utilizou como indicadores: categoria profissional pesquisada, quantidade de artigos, periódico e ano de publicação. **Resultados:** identificou-se o total de 579 artigos, dos quais 164 abordavam o tema em pauta. **Conclusão:** constatou-se um crescimento anual de publicações sobre esse tema na SCIELO, prevalecendo às relacionadas ao campo da Saúde do Trabalhador, quando comparadas ao de Saúde Ocupacional, sugerindo uma mudança paradigmática na abordagem desse objeto de estudo. **Descritores:** Pessoal de Saúde; Saúde do Trabalhador; Desenvolvimento Humano.

RESUMEN

Objetivo: Investigar la literatura científica sobre la salud de los trabajadores en el campo de la salud, a partir de datos catalogados en una base de datos digital. **Metodología:** revisión integradora realizado en seis pasos. La búsqueda fue realizada por la colección SciELO en el período 1972-2011, los títulos y resúmenes de artículos que cubren el tema de la salud de los profesionales de la salud, los descriptores de "Salud Laboral" y "Salud Ocupacional". Después del análisis temático de los artículos seleccionados, sistematización utiliza como indicadores: categoría profesional buscado, el número de artículos, la revista y el año de publicación. **Resultados:** se identificó un total de 579 artículos, de los cuales 164 abordamos el tema en cuestión. **Conclusión:** Se observó un crecimiento anual de publicaciones sobre este tema en SCIELO, cualquiera que sea el campo relacionado de la salud en el trabajo, en comparación con la salud de los trabajadores, lo que sugiere un cambio de paradigma en el abordaje de esta temática. **Descriptores:** Salud Personal; Salud Ocupacional; Desarrollo Humano.

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INTRODUCTION

The scientific literature has portrayed numerous researches in the fields of Occupational Health and Occupational Health, whose results indicate the occurrence of studies related to the health professional's health.¹⁻² This indication has led us to conduct a survey on the set of productions currently available, to check more specifically what professional categories researches have studied.

In similar survey we investigated the various problems related to health professional's health, in which the authors' conclusion refers to accidents at work, working conditions, mental health and quality of life of workers, as the aspects discussed in scientific publications. This research also cites the formation of the authors of selected publications: mostly nurses, teachers and doctors, emphasizing the relevance of scientific production in nursing.³

The present study aimed to extend the approach on this topic, identifying the categories of health professionals most researched and its links with the paradigms of the field of Occupational Health and Occupational Health. Thus, our emphasis is on the weakening of these workers, we assume that prove the number of papers published from these descriptors. Similarly to the study mentioned above, we are concerned in making a chronological reading of the productions, for an analysis of the historical development of scientific publications on the topic at hand.

Preliminarily, it is brief excursion into the history of the struggles for worker's health, focusing then on the configuration of the field of Occupational Health and Occupational Health. Then presents the research methodology used and the results achieved by undertaking a discussion and conclusion.

♦ The scenario of the struggles for worker health

From the 80, the subject worker health began to gain greater prominence in Brazilian political agenda, given the set of social phenomena in evidence at that time. The trade union movement in the ABC region of São Paulo, in the final years of the 70's brought to the center of political debates the issues of work organization and workers' health. Following the international scene, he settled in Brazil a broad social movement of class solidarity and critique of established power - move with roots in the demonstrations of May '68 in Paris,

representing explosively, a complaint that the power system and gathering students and workers who rebelled against the subjection of labor to capital. Lacaz⁴ says that one reason for these manifestations was due to:

[...] Malaise caused by working in the industry, the use of the technique for the despotic control, the feeling of disutility of labor and declining satisfaction and income from work.⁴

Therefore, thinking health policies at work involves take into account the panorama social Brazilian and world that moment.⁴ Likewise, the argumentation that the years of second half of the decade of 60, were marked by questioning of meaning of life, the body's use, and denunciation of obsolescence of values already without meaning for the new generation.⁵ These questionings have shaken confidence in the State and they put to the side the "sacred" and "mystic" of labor - cultivated in Christian thought and necessary in capitalist society. This process took, in some countries, to the requirement of worker participation in health issues and safety.⁴

These antecedents are such that, in the 80s, Brazil is host to several achievements of workers, living a historic moment of appreciation of his knowledge and openness to social participation in shaping public policy. An event that establishes the paradigm of social participation in the period is the VIII National Conference health⁶ introducing political discussion about health issues in the various representative groups of the population (residents association and professional unions, political parties, etc.). According to the National Health Council⁶, major aspects were approved at this conference:

♦ A participação do setor privado assumiu um caráter complementar, sendo vedada a destinação de recursos públicos para a subvenção às instituições com fins lucrativos.

♦ The universal right to health as a state's duty to provide it equitably to the entire population;

♦ Actions and Health Services will be considered of public relevance, leaving the government regulation, supervision and control;

♦ The Unified Health System - SUS, joined all utilities in a hierarchical network, regionalized, decentralized and comprehensive care, with community participation.

♦ The private sector took on a complementary character, being forbidden the allocation of public funds for the subsidy for-profit institutions.

In terms specifically of Occupational Health, it is important to note that this conference proposed the idea that "the full realization of the right to health entails ensuring, among other rights, work in decent conditions, with extensive knowledge and control of workers about the process and working environment"⁴. These assumptions contained in the core of the movement called "Health Care Reform", whose directions were assimilated by the 1988 Constitution, favoring the scope of the achievements in the field of health, including the health of the worker.⁷ must be emphasized, then the Organic Law of health 1990, which established the legitimacy of constitutional guidelines.

Since 1990, the imperatives of neoliberal policy in Brazil, called the "minimal state", exempted itself from its responsibility towards the social issue privatizing social policy, setting up a government that valued economic policy over social policy and privatizing services, according to the logic of the market.⁸ These issues meant that the NHS was penalized with decreased transfer of funds to the health sector, threatening the achievements of workers and drifting challenges to the various social segments.

Observe that this retrospective is closely related to the paradigms of health and labor force at the time, deriving other, as discussed below.

◆ **Fields of Occupational Health and Occupational Health**

When they analyzed the origins of the field of Occupational Health, was a response to "[...] on impotence medicine to intervene in the work of the health problems caused by production processes"⁵. The emergence of this problem relates to an economic and political context set in the postwar period, as occurred in Europe and North America accelerated development of industrial technology, divorced from a consideration of worker protection. Thus, the field of Occupational Health has emerged with the goal of intervening in the work environment, considering the worker as an object of study for the improvement of technique, always with the goal of increasing productivity. The assumptions involved aggregating Occupational Health, along with medicine, other disciplines and other professions, in so-called multidisciplinary.

In turn, the field of Occupational Health has emerged as an attempt to rescue the human side of work, the employee does not understand as an object of art, but now as having knowledge of the work they perform

and, therefore, agent changes. Thus, considering the employee:

[...] As a historical actor, who can intervene and transform the reality of work and in control of harmfulness, the consensus definition of intervention priorities and developing strategies transformer⁴.

When discussing the advances and retreats of these two fields that deal with the issue of health worker, refers to criticism of the model Occupational Health⁷, that contributed little to the understanding of the causation of work-related diseases and is therefore questioned and considered insufficient given the complexity of the phenomenon health, illness and work.

The health control advocated by Occupational Health boils down to the strategy of adapting the work environment to man and each man to his job. Here there is little room for subjectivity of workers, taken as the object of patient and technique, as well as strengthen the possibility of seizure forms of illness at work in contemporary, whose causality increasingly complex, involving the organization of work and its relationship with the subjectivity of the collective workers⁴. In this sense, was being engendered another front of struggle on behalf of the flowering of a theoretical and methodological framework that would take into consideration, above all, the subjectivity of the worker in his daily activities, which came to be called the field of Occupational Health, featured as

[...] A body of theoretical interdisciplinary practices - technical, social, human - and inter developed by different actors situated in different social places and informed by a common perspective. This perspective is the result of all accumulated assets within the Public Health with roots in the movement of the Latin American Social Medicine and influenced by Italian experience⁹.

Considering these issues, defined - to map the productions that studied the professionals working in health, when pursued by the descriptors - Occupational Health and Occupational Health.

OBJECTIVE

- To investigate the scientific literature on the health of workers in the health field, from materials cataloged on a digital basis.

METHOD

This is an integrative review that aims to "generate a comprehensive overview of complex concepts, theories or health problems" in various areas of health¹⁰. This

review included six stages: identification of the subject and selection of research question; establishing criteria for inclusion and exclusion of studies and searching the literature, defining the information to be extracted from the selected studies, critical evaluation of the studies included in the integrative review, interpretation of results, presentation of review/synthesis of knowledge.

Taking up the topic of health workers in the health field, in the first stage of the review was formulated as a question: In the last six decades, according to the Health Reform in Brazil, the scientific production on the health of health workers are more cataloged under the descriptors "Occupational Health" or "Health Worker"?

Then we collected data in the collection of the Scientific Electronic Library (SciELO), during the month of September 2011, covering the period from 1972 (the year of first publication cataloged) to 2011, opting to work only with titles of articles in Portuguese found on the subject and, when necessary, reading the abstracts. As descriptors we used the standardized and available in MeSH: "Occupational Health" and "Occupational Health", by keep close relation with theoretical approaches to health and work under these classifications.

Regarding the inclusion criteria, we chose to study selection of titles containing the

word health and/or issues that pertained to the health of any professional category (eg nurses, doctors, community health workers). We excluded studies that did not refer to the topic at hand.

As a tool for systematic data was created a form to gather information about: occupational category, journal and year of publication to ensure the reliability of the extracted data. Then, there was the thematic analysis of titles and/or abstracts 11. The results and discussion of the data were organized descriptively and presented in tables to enable the reader to critically evaluate their applicability. It was considered unnecessary to make a value judgment about the quality of production found in order to be indexed in renowned journals.

RESULTS

Preliminarily, it is cited as a difficulty and/or limitation in this study the fact that many titles do not specify the occupational category covered, making it necessary, in some cases, reading the abstracts. There was identified, in the total search, 579 articles with the descriptors "Occupational Health" and "Occupational Health". In the analysis of the titles we selected 164 articles that addressed the worker's health, among these, 36% were cataloged in the field of occupational health and 64% health worker, as shown in Table 1.

Table 1. Distribution of publications of articles on the health of health workers by descriptors

Descriptors	Number
Occupacional Health	59
Workers Health	105
Total	164

Source: collection of the Scientific Electronic Library (SciELO) (2011).

The total accessed with "Occupational Health" was 264 articles. These were selected after reading titles (and in some cases, the summaries) 59 articles dealing specifically with health care workers, or slightly more than 22% of this production.

Among these 59, in terms of occupational categories studied, 15 referred to nursing professionals, indicating the prominence given to this occupational category. Studies of

workers in the hospital area (including multiple categories) were 10 in number, in most studies on teams of health professionals. The third category was the most studied of dental professionals, with eight articles. The scope of the study by occupational categories is detailed in Table 2.

Table 2. Distribution of occupational categories studied and cataloged from the descriptor Occupational Health.

Occupational categories	Number of articles
Nursing	15
Hospital Worker	10
Dentistry	8
Anesthesiologist	4
Health alert	2
Health Agent	2
Community Agent	2
Physician	2
Resident Physician	1
Other	13
Total	59

Source: collection of the Scientific Electronic Library (SciELO) (2011).

It was observed that in 39 years of research articles 59 were produced, though in a few years no record was not mentioned production. In Table 3 this period grouped in three blocks: the first period covers the

publications from 1972 to 2000, representing the twentieth century, the second block from 2001 to 2010, ie the first decade of the XXI; alone and the third block consisting only by the year 2011.

Table 3. Distribution of the number of productions cataloged from the descriptor Occupational Health.

Periods	Productions
1972- 2000	7
2001 - 2010	44
Until September 2011	8
Total	59

Source: collection of the Scientific Electronic Library (SciELO) (2011).

You can notice a significant advance in the number of publications in the first decade of this century, because seven articles found from 1972 to 2000, there is a jump to 44 from 2001 to 2010 (average of 4.8 articles per year). Stands still, the fact that in just 09 months of 2011 are indexed articles more than the total of 28 years of the twentieth century (1972-2000); which highlights the increasing order of the number of publications.

The periodical publications over this area was the Notebook of Public Health (National

School of Public Health Sergio Arouca - Fundação Oswaldo Cruz), followed by: Journal of Public Health (School of Public Health - USP), Brazilian Journal of Nursing (Brazilian Association Nursing), Brazilian Journal of Anesthesiology (Brazilian Society of Anesthesiology), Latin American Journal of Nursing (Nursing School of Ribeirão Preto - USP) and Journal of School Nursing (Nursing School - USP), as shown in Table 4.

Table 4. List of journals and their production from the Descriptor Occupational Health.

Journal	Number of articles
Public health notebook	10
Journal of public health	7
Brazilian Journal of Nursing	5
Journal of Anesthesiology	4
Latin American Journal of nursing	4
School of nursing magazine	4
Text and Context-Nursing	2
Anna Nery School	2
Science and public health	2
Acta Paulista of Nursing	2
Brazilian Journal of Pneumology	2
Other	15
Total	59

Source: collection of the Scientific Electronic Library (SciELO) (2011).

With the descriptor "Occupational Health" found a total of 315 publications. From reading the titles (and in some cases, the summaries), we selected 105 articles that focused on the health of health professionals.

As for the occupations most studied, the highlight was also also for nursing, with 63 articles, approximately 60% of total titles analyzed. Then, 29 articles were gathered under the category healthcare professionals

that referred to several studies (Primary Care teams, PSF, urgent/emergency, hospital care, etc.), but without specifying occupational categories. The 12 remaining items refer to the total of investigations of various professional categories such as general practitioners, radiologists, dentists, among others.

The first publication found with the descriptor "Occupational Health" in 1996 and it was only after three years found another. With the entry of the century, after three years without gap publications, we found a significant increase in the number of articles. In the period between 2003 and 2010 were selected 78 productions ever increasingly, as indicated in Table 5.

Table 5. Relationship between year and number of productions cataloged from the descriptor Occupational Health.

Year	1996	1999	2003	2004	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	Total
Articles	01	01	01	02	03	13	11	24	24	25	105

Source: collection of the Scientific Electronic Library (SciELO) (2011).

In making the comparison fields chronological Occupational Health and Occupational Health, notes that in the latter the increase in production has been more significant than in the first. Until 2000 the conceptual paradigm of scientific research fell on the Occupational Health field: in this period were published eight articles. Already paradigm Occupational Health presented in nascent stage, with only two items. In the period covering the years 2001-2010 both fields showed increasing number of productions (44 in 78 Occupational Health and Occupational Health), however, the field of Occupational Health Occupational Health surpassed with almost double production . This difference becomes more evident in 2011, when production under the paradigm of Occupational Health (25 articles) triples over the field Occupational Health (8 Articles).

Regarding journals, the most representative publications in the field of Occupational Health was the Journal of the School of Nursing, with 20 productions, at the same level contains the Latin American Journal of Nursing, totaling 19 items. The journal of the School-Anna Nery published 12 articles, the journal Text and Context - Nursing, 09, and the Journal of Nursing Gaucha presented 06 productions. Contrary to what happened with the descriptor "Occupational Health", the Journal of Public Health 05 articles indexed only under the descriptor "Occupational Health". The journal Science and Public Health and published 04 Brazilian Journal of Nursing also 04.

These publications in Portuguese confirm the growing interest of researchers in disseminating knowledge in the Brazilian scientific community, noting that many of these journals are indexed in international databases.

DISCUSSION

It appears that the worker's health in Brazil has been the subject of studies and research

to be the population exposed to various risks (since the accidents at work by behavioral issues and mental health).

Among the publications, there are the results of a second survey, revealing that the health worker that has been widely investigated because, of the 170 articles of different occupational categories analyzed by these authors, 35 dealt with the health professionals, the largest percentage of related categories (20.59%). However, it was not the object of this research highlight the paradigm anchored such studies. This survey confirms other earnings¹ that nurses are the most studied group, about which does the following assignment.

Nursing professionals have peculiarities of the area of operation and composition of the labor force, which is always short of the need to fulfill the activities inherent to the work process. So many factors influence the quality of life, among them, the conditions and organization, elements that funnel scholars in search of answers to the problems inherent in the practice of nursing as well as other professions. Precarious work is a phenomenon that affects most workers by deregulation and the loss of labor and social rights, which certainly causes suffering and increases vulnerability to illnesses.¹

The comparison between journals published more studies from the perspective of Occupational Health (Notebook of Public Health and the Journal of Public Health) and those cataloged in Occupational Health (Journal of the School of Nursing and the Latin American Journal of Nursing) also corroborates the fact that the professional category is searched Nursing.¹

It appears that the casualization of labor, also identified by Almeida et al.³ has extended to all healthcare workers, especially from the 1990s, can be credited to the impacts produced by the spread of neoliberal policies in Brazil It proposes a management model for the healthcare industry, aspiring to

increase productivity and reduce costs, which resulted in the retreat of achievements Sanitary Reform Movement.³

In this sense, the NHS, which admittedly is an efficient model of health care for the population, has struggled to effectuation of its proposal, either by reducing the transfer of funds to the health sector, and low investment in training of professionals and research. This larger context of working conditions results in a framework of several vulnerabilities that impact the health of these health professionals.¹

The results of this research show paradigm shift in the approach to health and work. If by 2000 the scientific research worker considered as another element inserted in the workplace - focus on Occupational Health - notes that gradually (2001-2010) has undergone changes this paradigm. As it was found, research on worker health raise undergo conceptual changes, breaking the causal conception "disease / agent and / or a group of risk factors at work"³ and directing their focus to the study of subjective aspects worker, their values, their beliefs.

Mental health is identified as the main issue investigated in the articles analyzed, considering this fact as an indication that the individual worker came to occupy the central place of research. Conclude that the current trend of researchers is to construct analyzes of the following categories: "[...] the identity of the worker, the worker's relationship with the labor activity, psychological distress and satisfaction at work."³

It was possible to observe the prevalence of production of the subject in focus in the Journal of the School of Nursing, then Latin American Journal of Nursing, Journal of the School-Anna Nery, Notebook of Public Health and the Journal of Public Health, referencing them as regular traditional scientific literature covering national in scope publications interest and appreciation for issues related to health and work.

CONCLUSION

In the collection of SCIELO grew annual publications related to health worker health. By using the descriptors Occupational Health and Workers' Health, there has been a growing number of productions this last field on the first, which shows conceptual change research, which now direct your focus to the individual worker, their subjectivity, their values and beliefs.

It was observed that studies began to appreciate aspects of human development

worker and decreased the associated production system, the main focus in the approach to Occupational Health. Scientific interest in the subject has increased considerably in the first decade of this century, with the apex of the publications the year 2011, with 35 articles published in the two descriptors together. In view of this survey at the time mentioned, it is estimated that subsequently new articles have been published, totaling an even higher production.

Nursing is the most studied professional category, followed by multidisciplinary teams of health (in which also appears Nursing) and by dental professionals. It should be noted that the large number of surveys of nursing professionals is a significant factor for academic research, allowing to hypothesize that these workers represent a professional category weakened by numerous challenges that this profession requires and therefore should be subject attention of public policy for the worker, getting here is a suggestion for future research topic.

It is believed that this study represents an effort to provide theoretical and methodological support for the development and implementation of public attention to this set of Brazilian workers. It shows the importance of dialogue between the scientific and the development of these policies, which pervades the construction and practice of interdisciplinarity in multidisciplinary teams, aiming a social and a human development of the community.

Identifies itself as limits of this research the lack of clarity in the specification of titles of occupations investigated and suggest referrals offered therein conducive advance the analysis of other variables related to them.

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